

# Study Guide for Native American and Puritan Literature Unit

## ***Native American Literature***

### Archetypes

- Patterns found across cultures and time periods
- Character types, settings, themes
- Common Native American archetypes include trickster, earth mother, cultural hero, faithful companion, spirits (including animal spirits)

### Characteristics of Native American literature

- Oral tradition
- Origin/creation myths
- Repetition
- Ritual beginnings and endings
- Common motifs: sky world, earth diver, theft of fire or water, emergence from under the earth to the surface, number four, rite of passage (coming of age), importance of Nature, shared ownership

## ***Puritan Literature***

### Puritanism

- Sought to purify the church; preferred simplicity as opposed to showiness and extravagance
- Beliefs: basic sinfulness of humankind, predestination, providence, grace, Biblical authority, judgmental God
- Practices: self-discipline, self-examination, theocracy, thrift, industry, hard work
- Viewed their immigration to the New World as a divine mission; opposed other religious beliefs despite their own persecution in England

### Characteristics of Puritan literature

- Plain style
- Biblical allusions
- Reflection of God-centered lifestyle and Puritan practices
- Demonstration of Puritan beliefs
- Historical narrative, journals, sermons, biographies, hymns

## ***Rhetorical Appeals***

- Ethos: the source's credibility, the speaker's/author's authority
- Logos: the logic used to support a claim (induction and deduction); can also be the facts and statistics used to help support the argument.
- Pathos: the emotional or motivational appeals; vivid language, emotional language and numerous sensory details.